

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 7, 2004

CONTACT: MARIL E. ALSUP
Public Affairs Specialist
(413) 253-4314 or
maril.alsup@ma.usda.gov

HEBRON CENTER NURSERY SCHOOL GETS NEW DIGS



HEBRON, CT – USDA Rural Development State Director, David Tuttle joined students, faculty, alumni and benefactors at the brand new Hebron Center Nursery School on Church Street today for a ceremonial ribbon-cutting in honor of the schools' new home.

\$425,000 in funds for the schools' relocation came from USDA Rural Development's Community Facility Direct Loan Program which provides assistance to develop essential community facilities in rural areas and towns with populations of up to 20,000. Community fund raising campaigns and donations from the Peridot Foundation, the Church of the Holy Family, the United Way of the Capital Area, the Hebron Lions Club, the Hebron Women's Club, the Hebron Knights of Columbus, and various individuals have also made the move possible.

Hebron Center Nursery School which has an enrollment of nearly 80 students between the ages 3 and 5 years is a non-profit, cooperative that began operating in 1970 and since 1976 has been located in St. Peter's Episcopal Church on Church Street.

"USDA Rural Development's commitment to rural America aims to improve the quality of rural living today and in the future," said State Director Tuttle. "Our investment in this project, combined with the lasting lessons provided by the Hebron Center Nursery School to the youngsters of rural Connecticut, serves both sides of that commitment."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

###